
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner
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Date: March 24, 2018

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Time: 4:00 p.m.

SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE #12

Sitka.... An aerial survey was conducted today covering Sitka Sound from Eastern Channel to Krestof Sound. Weather during today's flight was good with calm wind and clear skies. Several large schools of herring were observed around Shoals Point and approximately 1.9 nautical miles (nm) of herring spawn was observed near Fred's Creek (Figure 1). The highest concentration of herring predators was observed near the Kruzof Island shoreline north of Shoals Point continuing into Eastern Bay. The large concentrations of whales working the deeper waters north of Bieli Rock have dispersed to the shorelines of eastern Kruzof and eastern Krestof islands. The vessel survey conducted by the *R/V Kestrel* showed a large biomass of herring in shallower waters off the shorelines of eastern Kruzof and eastern Krestof islands. Four successful test sets were made today; however, results of the test sets did not warrant prosecuting a fishery.

- 9:00 a.m., *F/V Anduril*; Promisila Bay; 200 ton set; 9.7% mature roe, 0.8% immature roe; 129 gram average weight; 45.0% female.
- 10:00 a.m., *F/V Perseverance*; Inner Point; 100 ton set; 8.3% mature roe, 1.3% immature roe; 100 gram average weight; 40% female.
- 11:00 a.m., *F/V Invincible*; Shoals Point; 20 ton set; 8.8% mature roe, 1.0% immature roe; 119 gram average; 40% female.
- 1:00 p.m., *F/V Sea Prince*; Promisila Bay; 25 ton set; 14.0% mature roe, 1.0% immature roe; 123 gram average weight; 63.3% female.

The next Fishery Update can be expected on Sunday, March 25, 2018.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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Figure 1.– Sitka Sound herring spawn for March 24, 2018.